at developing and gaining expertise in the field of KBCS/FGCS by research, design and development of prototype of such a system and applying this technology based solutions to major socioeconomic problems. Under this project 6 nodal centres are being established with Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay National Centre for Software Technology, Bombay, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, Indian Insitute of Sciences, Bangalore, Indian Institute of Technology,Madras and Department of Electronics to carry out research and development in the identified thrust areas. The specific areas in which research & development will be carried out will include Artificial Intelligence, pattern Recognition, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing Speech Analysis, Functional Languages, Experts Systems, Computer Architecture. The project has been approved by Planning Commission and submitted to UNDP for their possible assistance. The implementation of this project has since commenced.

Loss of Life and Property due to Riots in Jammu & Kashmir

1422. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of places where riots broke out in Jammu & Kashmir during the last three months and the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to appoint any inquiry committee in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir are competent to order an inquiry into the law and order incidents under the provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1962.

Steps to Counter Terrorist Activities in Delhi

1423. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what steps have been taken to maintain law and order in Delhi in the light of rise of terrorist activities in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The following steps have been taken by Delhi Police to deal with the terrorist/extremist activities:

(i) An Operation Cell to deal with terrorist/ extremist activities has been set up in Delhi Police.

(ii) A Watch is being kept at possible hideouts in order to locate Sikh extremists, visiting Delhi from Punjab.

(iii) Regular co-ordination meetings with the officials of neighbouring States, CBI and I.B. are being held to monitor the activities of the extremists/terrorists and to exchange information.

(iv) Intensive checking of hotels and guest houses is being done regularly to locate extremist elements and suspicious strangers.

(v) Checking at Border Check-past has been intensified.

(vi) Area Security plan vehicles have been deployed for the security of VIPs vulnerable to terrorist attack and to apprehend them in case they strike.

(vii) Armed Guards and other security measures have been provided to known and possible targets of terrorists.

(viii) patrolling has been intensified at Railway track and platforms and strict vigilance has been mounted at Inter-State Bus Terminus and Palam Airport.

(ix) Photographs of known/suspected terrorists have been circulated to all District Officers, Security personnel and mobile vans to apprehend them.